

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GREEK POLITICS - POISED FOR THE RACE

1. SUMMARY. GREEK INDIVIDUALISM SURGED AGAIN WITH REPORTS SEPTEMBER 26 OF TWO NEW POLITICAL FORMATIONS. STEPHANOPOULOS ANNOUNCED HIS SUPPORT FOR CARAMANLIS. FORMER PM KANELLOPOULOS CONTINUES TO KEEP HIS OWN COUNSEL. IN RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE ANDREAS PAPANDREOU SAID BEHIND ELECTIONS IS TRAP LEADING TO RETURN OF KING. ALL PARTIES ANTICIPATE NEXT WEEK WILL BRING ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION DATE (PROBABLY NOVEMBER 10), PUBLICATION OF CANDIDATES' LISTS BY EACH PARTY AND PARTY PLATFORMS. END SUMMARY.

2. SUBSTANTIATING LAST WEEK'S RUMOR, NINETEEN PROMINENT PERSONALITIES, ALL RELATIVELY YOUNG AND NEARLY ALL ASSOCIATED WITH RESISTANCE EFFORTS, ANNOUNCED FORMATION OF NEW POLITICAL MOVEMENT TO BE CALLED "NEW POLITICAL FORCES." LEADING LIST OF FOUNDERS ARE FOUR GOG MINISTERS: JOHN PESMAZOGLOU (FINANCE), GEORGE MANGAKIS (PUBLIC WORKS), DIMITRIOS TSATSOS (UNDER SECRETARY OF EDUCATION), AND CONSTANTINE ALAVANOS (UNDER SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS), PROFESSORS GEORGE KOUMANDOS, ANASTASIOS PEONIS, GEORGE IORDANIDES, GENERAL HA (RETIRED), AND VIRGINIA TSOUDEROU, DAUGHTER OF EX-PM TSOUDEROS. STATEMENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEW MOVEMENT INCLUDED PLEDGE TO PARTICIPATE IN UPCOMING

ELECTIONS, ENDORSEMENT OF FAITH IN DEMOCRACY AND INSTITUTIONS OF MULTI-PARTY PARLIAMENT, PROCLAMATION OF COOPERATION AND RELATIONSHIP WITH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN EUROPE, AND NEED TO PURGE ALL NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF CONSEQUENCES OF APRIL 21 REVOLUTION. NONE OF FOUNDERS HAS EXPERIENCE IN POLITICS NOR HAS SERVED AS DEPUTY PREVIOUSLY. OLDTIME POLITICIANS ANTICIPATE "NEW FORCES" WHILE MAINTAINING SEPARATE IDENTITY WILL REMAIN WITHIN CENTER UNION FOLD WHERE FOUNDERS HAVE BEEN ALIGNED IN PAST.

3. COINCIDING WITH ADVENT OF "NEW FORCES" WAS ANNOUNCEMENT BY EX-MINISTER OF DEFENSE PETROS GAROUFALIAS (CU) THAT HE HAD JOINED RANKS WITH NINE OTHER EX-DEPUTIES FROM CENTER UNION, ERE, AND FDK WHO NO LONGER RESPECT LEADERSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES. (THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DOUBT AS TO HOW SERIOUSLY THIS MOVEMENT CAN BE TAKEN BECAUSE OF SKEPTICISM ABOUT GAROUFALIAS' CREDENTIALS AS LEADER OF NEW POLITICAL PARTY.)

4. ANDREAS PAPANDREOU, FOUNDER OF PAN-HELLENIC SOCIALIST PARTY, PASOK, TOLD NEWSMEN SEPTEMBER 26 AFTER RETURN FROM ITALY THAT HE CANNOT ACCEPT RESULT OF UPCOMING ELECTIONS BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN HE WILL NOT PARTICIPATE. PAPANDREOU ADDED THAT GOVERNMENT IS SETTING TRAP BY WHICH ELECTIONS WILL LEAD TO RETURN OF KING CONSTANTINE. HE TOOK OCCASION TO AGAIN OPPOSE EARLY ELECTIONS "WHILE AGENTS OF FOREIGN POWERS AND THOSE WHO BETRAYED CYPRUS REMAIN UNPUNISHED." PAPANDREOU'S REMARKS ANTICIPATE AT LEAST THREE PROBABLE CAMPAIGN ISSUES, STATUS OF MONARCHY, "DEJUNTIZATION", AND ROLE OF FOREIGN AGENTS, E.G. USG, CIA, NATO. EMBASSY HAS HEARD FROM SEPARATE SOURCES THAT ANDREAS PAPANDREOU'S PASOK IS GETTING OFF TO SLOW START. HE REPORTEDLY IS NOT DRAWING SUPPORT OF LIBERALS OF CENTER UNION LEFT/WING BUT ONLY FROM URBAN YOUTH AND STUDENTS WHO MAY ULTIMATELY OPT FOR LEFTIST/COMMUNIST ALTERNATIVE. ONE SOURCE INDICATED PAPANDREOU HAS PAID SUBSTANTIAL SUM TO APOYEVMATINI, POPULAR AFTERNOON DAILY, TO SUBSIDIZE PROMINENT COVERAGE OF PASOK.

5. NEXT FEW DAYS ARE EXPECTED TO BRING ANNOUNCEMENT OF PM CARAMANLIS' NEW MOVEMENT, "NEA DEMOCRATIA", WHICH ACCORDING TO LATEST REPORTS WILL INCLUDE NEW POLITICAL PERSONALITIES WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS FOR FIRST TIME. SPECULATION ANTICIPATES THAT "NEA DEMOCRATIA" WOULD EXCLUDE JUNTA COLLABORATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORS.

6. MAVROS' RETURN NEXT WEEK WILL REKINDLE CENTER UNION PARTY ACTIVITIES. ERE EX-DEPUTIES DESPAIR THAT CONSERVATIVE PARTY PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS ARE STILL LAGGING.
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